



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**For Immediate Release  
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### **Moab UMTRA Project Reaches Cleanup Milestone**

(Grand Junction, CO) — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has reached a substantial milestone in the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project’s cleanup. The project has safely relocated 10 million tons of uranium mill tailings from the Moab, Utah site to the disposal cell in Crescent Junction, Utah. This milestone means more than 62 percent of the estimated 16 million tons have been shipped.

“A decade ago, the project shipped its first train load of material,” Federal Cleanup Director Russell McCallister said. “We are proud to see the tremendous progress our team has made since then, all with a commitment to safety, environmental stewardship, and efficiently completing this project.”

Mill tailings are a sand-like material that remain from processing uranium ore. Tailings are transported by rail in locked steel containers to Crescent Junction, which is located 30 miles north of the Moab site. The tailings are placed in the disposal cell, which is capped with a multi-layered cover composed of native soils and rock.

A milestone celebration is scheduled for October 8, 2019. A release with more information will follow.

DOE’s Office of Environmental Management (EM) oversees the Moab UMTRA Project. EM’s mission is to complete the safe cleanup of the environmental legacy resulting from five decades of nuclear weapons development and government-sponsored nuclear energy research. Cleanup work is currently ongoing at 16 sites across the United States. This year marks 30 years of cleanup under the EM program.

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